SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of September, 1990)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters increased during September. The land crew total decreased by one to 101, and the marine crew total increased by two for a total of 126 crews and vessels, a net increase of one crew.

The September total (126) represents an increase of 1% over last month, a 9% decrease from September, 1989, a 30% decrease from September, 1988, a 35% decrease from September, 1987, a 19% decrease from September, 1986, a 66% decrease from September, 1985, and a **decrease of 76% from the same month in 1984.**

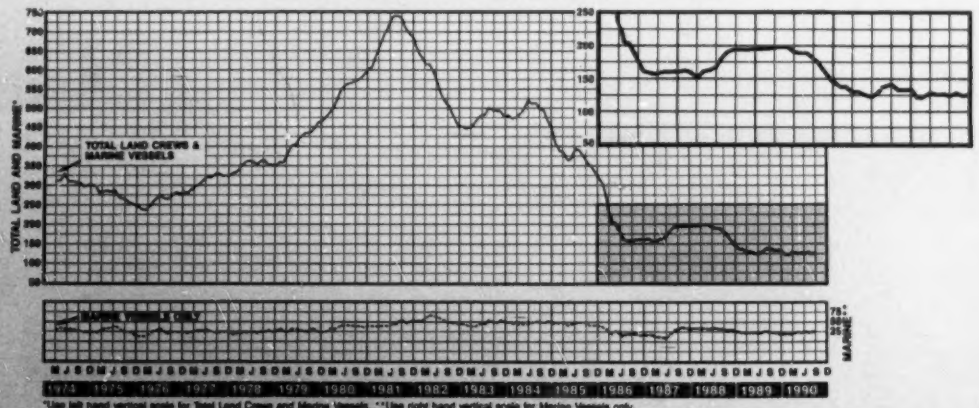
During September, five contractors were operating six of the 93 land crews and two of the twenty-three marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Sept'89	Sept'88	Sept'87	Sept'86	Sept'85	Sept'84
	126	125	138	181	193	155	372	524

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Sept 1989	Sept 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1986	Sept 1985	Sept 1984	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Sept 1989	Sept 1988	Sept 1987	Sept 1986	Sept 1985	Sept 1984
34 Contr's:	93	94	104	136	151	114	290	435	23	21	21	25	26	20	43	44
5 Oil Co's:	8	8	10	15	13	17	33	37	2	2	3	4	3	4	6	7
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
TOTALS	101	102	114	151	164	131	323	472	25	23	24	30	29	24	49	52

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE
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1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990

*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

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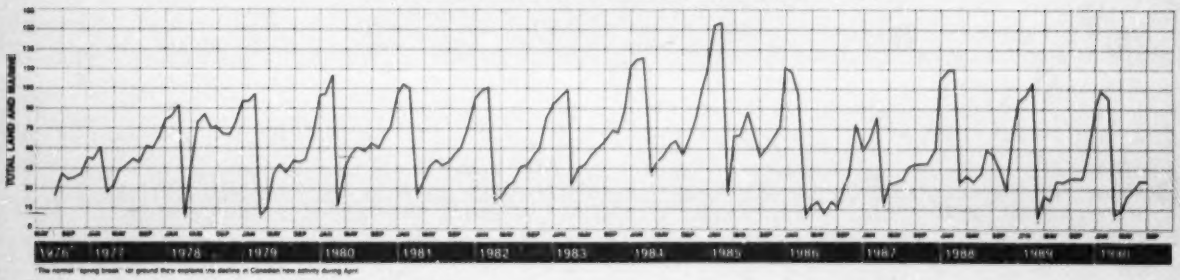
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

September, 1990 (August figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Crews
20 Contractors:	30 (33)	3 (3)
1 Oil Company:	1 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	31 (34)	3 (3)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)